

New York, New York Public Library, Spencer Collection, NYPL Spencer 019

Description: ff. 140 - Original wooden boards covered with white deerskin. - Owned by Sir Thomas Cumberworth, who bequeathed it (1450) to his chaplain. Given ca. 1500 to nunnery of Marrick by widow of Sir Richard Radcliffe. John Cowper; Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland; Lord Leconfield; acquired for Spencer, 1928. - De Ricci, 1339. Dictionary Catalog, Spencer Collection, 901. Kathleen L. Scott, Later Gothic Manuscripts, II, no. 74, pp. 217-9. V. Palsits, "The Petworth Manuscript of 'Grace Dieu'...", Bulletin of NYPLXXXII (1928), 715-20. - Jonathan J. G. Alexander, James H. Marrow and Lucy Freeman Sandler, The Splendor of the Word: Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts at the New York Public Library (London / Turnhout: The New York Public Library / Harvey Miller Publishers, 2005) n. 94.

Acknowledgments: - We thank Prof. Lucy Freeman Sandler for her extensive work towards the present description of this manuscript.

Number of Parts: 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 32

Direct Link: http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/NYPLSpencer019_42

Language: Middle English; Latin *Country:* England *Century:* 15th

Part 1: ff. 1-140v

Description: - Parchment - 267 x 190 mm - 35-6 long lines per page, ruled in faded ink. Catchwords and quire signatures visible. Quaternions are the norm.

Country: England

Region: Lincolnshire?

Assigned Date: s. XV^{2/4}

Dated by scribe: No

Document: No

Script: Anglicana

Cardinal point:

City:

Searchable Date Range: 1425 - 1450

Inscribed Date:

Number of Scribes: ;1

Figurative Decoration: 26 miniatures of approx. 1/3 of the page in height.

Other Decoration: 1-line red and blue initials. 2-line and 3-line blue initials with red penwork. 2-line gold initials. 6-line and 7-line colored initials on gold fields with full border decorated with flowers, leaves etc.

Notes: Datable between 1413, when the text was translated into English (southeast Midlands), and 1450, bequest of Thomas Cumberworth; probably ca. 1430. B.L. Egerton 615 and Lansdowne 204 are stylistically and decoratively related to this manuscript. Latin

Number of Texts: 1

Text 1: ff. 1v-140v (including inscriptions)

Author: Guillaume Deguileville

Title: Pilgrimage of the Soul

Title: Incipit liber qui nuncupatur Grace Dieu. Cap. primus. Grace Dieu (alternate title)

Language(s): Middle English; Latin

Incipit: As I lay in a seint Laurence nyght slepyng.

Explicit: ffor myn is symple and of litel value. This is the marke at the bygynnyng of myn addition Ak and this at the ende.

Notes: Text is part 2 of a French trilogy in verse by Guillaume Deguileville; composed in several stages mid-14th century. Middle English prose adaptation 1413 (see f. 136). 10 full ms copies survive of pt. 2, all using same translation as source.

f. 1v Ownership note of Sir Thomas Cumberworth, "Liber domini Thome comorworth militis."



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f. 3v Inscriptions by later owners: Agnes Radcliffe, who gave it to the Benedictine nunnery of the Blessed Virgin and St. Andrew, Marrick, Yorkshire; Isabell Lumley, her daughter.



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f. 4 Opening of the "Kalender" (i.e. table of contents) with reference to chapter numbers.



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f. 7 Miniature of narrator/dreamer in bed, with a vision of his Soul (as a Pilgrim) accompanied by Dame Prayer (appearing as an angel with chalice and host), and of Dame Misericord burying his body, and of the city of Jerusalem (as church).



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f. 9 Miniature of Soul as a pilgrim led to judgment by his Guardian Angel, followed by a devil.



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f. 12 Miniature of three Souls as pilgrims, separated from the heavenly tribunal by large curtain; court as nimbed saints and Virgin; Guardian Angel with chalice; trumpeter. Quire signature in lower right corner.



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f. 22 Miniature of Soul and Angel with Satan writing accusation on a scroll against the Soul, as Synderesis (the Worm of Conscience), as a snake with a male head, looks on.



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f. 27v Page of text with flourished initial; catchwords visible.



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f. 33 Justice, Truth and Reason weighing Soul in a balance against Satan's writ; the Devil, Synderesis and the Soul stand on either side.



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f. 36 Misericord intercedes for the weighing of the Soul with its accusation, as the Soul and the Devil look on.



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f. 38 Opening of Book II. Miniature of Guardian Angel giving burden to Soul; Soul led to purgatory by the Guardian Angel.



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f. 40v Miniature of Soul raised to Heaven, greeted by singing and music-playing Angels.



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f. 42v Miniature of Soul shown naked and deformed souls by Guardian Angel.



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f. 44 The Guardian Angel shows to the Soul a group of damned souls being led to Hell by Devils.



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f. 48 Angels brining the comfort of Prayer to souls burning in Purgatory.



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f. 49v Souls in the flames of Purgatory being comforted with jars of "grace."



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f. 51v The Guardian Angel showing to the Pilgrim a soul in the sphere of fire, with water and the sphere of the moon surrounding it.



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f. 55 The Guardian Angel pointing to soul fixed in ice.



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 *f. 56v* The Soul sees a condemned soul chained to a money-chest.

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 *f. 60v* Opening of Book III. Miniature of (above) Soul shown unbaptized souls (nudes) in band of darkness; (below) devils with instruments of torture, mock court scene: Satan chained to seat, with a dog-headed devil kneeling before him.

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 *f. 63v* Souls hanging from hooks above fire, as observed by the Soul and the Guardian Angel.

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 *f. 65* Miniature of Soul shown spiked wheel hung with purses, with two traitors about to enter doors; head of betrayed king above.

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 *f. 68v* Soul shown souls in large kettle surrounded by devils with instruments of torture.

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 *f. 72* Opening of Book IV. Miniature of Soul shown Green and Dry Trees, with pilgrims between.

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 *f. 81* Miniature of Soul shown Green Tree and Christ nailed to Dry Tree, with Virgin kneeling at its foot.

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 *f. 86* Miniature of Soul with vision of the asses' tombs, recognizable by the effigies of the dead animals on the tops of the sarcophagi; a church stands beside the tombs.

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 *f. 87v* Miniature of Soul shown Lady Doctrine, as an enthroned woman with halo and long tongue, holding a nude child.

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 *f. 95* Miniature of Soul shown two images: the Knight Liberality (in armour) and the statue of gold, silver, brass, iron and clay seen by Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 2:31-36).

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 *f. 109v* Book V. Miniature of Guardian Angel descending from clouds to soul (in flames) with the multitude of larks.

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 *f. 111* Miniature of Soul shown heavenly spheres by Guardian Angel.

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 *f. 136* Explicit of text and colophon about date of translation.

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 *f. 139v* Final inscription.

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